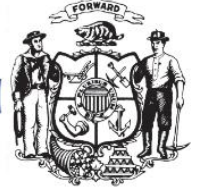




Frank Lasee

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Senator Frank Lasee's Statement on Passage of "Uber Bill" Wisconsin Leads the Nation in Response to Emerging Businesses

Senator Frank Lasee (R-De Pere) applauds the passage of legislation to allow Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) like Uber and Lyft to operate in the state without over-burdensome regulation while still protecting public safety. These companies provide a safe and often cheaper alternative to traditional taxi, limousine, or other for-hire vehicles.

This bill is an elegant balance of promoting public safety and boosting emerging technologies.

"We are the first in the nation to pass a statewide bill dealing with TNCs, and I am proud to have worked to improve safety, close the insurance coverage gap, and encourage innovative businesses to flourish here in Wisconsin. We will see other states follow suit using our bill as a model," Lasee said.

Across the country, TNC companies have seen a sharp spike in customer growth because the system is user-friendly and often much cheaper. They provide customers with a way to get quick and simple transportation using a cellphone app to arrange pickup and pay.

"This new transportation business model is wildly popular here in Wisconsin and throughout the country. It is clear that TNCs are here to stay. We chose to embrace this new model and have created a stable, predictable regulatory environment for these types of companies so they can provide new transportation options for Wisconsinites," Lasee said.

This bipartisan legislation is a thoughtful solution which allows these businesses to meet customer demand throughout the state without the being squeezed out by restrictive, reactionary local laws from some cities.

"Instead of limiting the operations of these inventive companies, we found a way to enhance the experience of people who use these services. In Wisconsin, we want to encourage the free-market principles which caused these companies to be successful in the first place—using innovation to meet customer demand, not more burdensome government regulation," Lasee said.

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